Winder, Davey (2005) **Team Working** *Information World Review* 219, December 2005: 41-43 – An overview of six tools for wiki services and social computing. The tools reviewed are Confluence, SocialText.org, EditMe, ProjectForums, JotSpot and Wikispaces. – [RN]

Winder, Davey (2005) **Voice Choice** *Information World Review* 218, November 2005: 31-33 – An evaluation of six resources that could be used to start an enterprise blog, outlining costs and their differing advantages and disadvantages. The tools reviewed are Blogjet, Ecto, Radio Userland, LiveJournal, Movable Type and WordPress. – [RN]

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Book Reviews

Weblogs and Libraries

Laura A Clyde, Oxford: Chandos Publishing 2004. 181pp. ISBN 1-84334-085-2

The publisher's publicity for this book starts off by saying that "the author aims to approach the topic of weblogs from two directions: weblogs as sources of information for libraries and librarians; and weblogs that libraries can use to promote their services or to provide a means of communication with their clients". That is exactly what this book does. Written by the late Laura Anne Clyde, who was a great advocate of blogs, *Weblogs and Libraries* provides a good introduction to the subject and how blogs can be used to best advantage in both acquiring and disseminating information.

This is a very easy book to read from start to finish and I would recommend you start at chapter one, which provides an overview and history of blogging, even if you know the basics. It covers the types of blog, who blogs and why, and explains the terminology. The book then moves onto blogs as sources of information (chapters two and three), how to find quality blogs, criteria for evaluating them, and chapter five concentrates on the library and information science area. There are lists of selected blogs and further reading and, inevitably, some of these are now out of date. There are, though, many useful references that are still worth following up.

The rest of the book is concerned with creating and managing blogs. As the title of the book states, this is aimed at libraries but many of the technical, implementation and management issues apply to any type of blog. There is a review of weblogs created by libraries, which is best read as a snapshot of the state of the art in the last quarter of 2003. Blogging has progressed well beyond what is described here, as evidenced by the proceedings of more recent conferences such as Internet Librarian International and Online 2005.

The final two chapters deal with creating and managing a blog. These cover in very general terms what one needs to consider: whether to host the blog locally or on a blog hosting service, the questions that might be included in the decision-making process, and tables comparing the advantages and disadvantages of the main "blogging path" options. The section on hosting services and software can be "skim-read" as so many of those mentioned have changed significantly, have been acquired by other services, or have disappeared altogether.

Disappointingly, the section on RSS feeds is very short and gives the impression that it was included as an afterthought. Managing the library weblog gives an overview of the management issues: planning for implementation, making technical decisions, identifying potential users, making decisions about content and features, interactivity, staff time for development and maintenance, budgeting and promotion.

What this book does **not** do is take you through the actual process of setting up a blog step by step. Indeed, it would have been foolish to attempt to do so as there are so many different approaches to blogging, and the technology evolves and changes so quickly. In any case, there are plenty of resources on the web that will help you do this (or you could attend the UKeiG workshop on Blogs and RSS!). Overall, this is a good introduction to the subject and one that I recommend to anyone starting out on their blogging "career".
Karen Blakeman

The Content Management Bible

Bob Boiko. New York: Hungry Minds, 2002. 966pp. ISBN 0-7645-4862-X.

What year was that? 2002? Surely there can't be a computing book published in 2002 that retains any relevance today? Even PCs built in 2002 are frequently obsolete by now.

But I make no apology for reviewing a book published in what is, in computing terms, the classical era. Boiko's book remains as relevant today as when it was first written.

The Content Management Bible is a comprehensive guide to the process of understanding, selecting, specifying, and implementing a content management